



Brighton & Hove  
City Council

# Overview & Scrutiny

Title:	<b>Culture, Tourism &amp; Enterprise Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee Ad-Hoc Panel</b>
Date:	<b>13 May 2009</b>
Time:	<b>10.00am</b>
Venue	<b>Committee Room 1, Hove Town Hall</b>
Members:	<b>Councillors:</b> Randall (Chairman), Davis and Harmer-Strange
Contact:	<b>Julia Riches/Karen Amsden</b>  Julia.riches@brighton-hove.gov.uk/karen.amsden@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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## AGENDA

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<b>11. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS</b>	<b>1 - 2</b>
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**12. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the previous meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2009 (to follow).

**13. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

<b>14. EVIDENCE FROM WITNESSES</b>	<b>3 - 6</b>
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The Panel will hear from:

Pooran Desai, Sustainability Director of BioRegional Quintain Ltd  
David Porter, Environmental Enterprise Manager, EnviroBusiness  
Jim Christy, Director, East Sussex Enterprise Hub  
Jim Watson, Director of the Sussex Energy Group at Sussex University  
Pippa Doodson, SeaRoc, (TBC)

**15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The City Council actively welcomes members of the public and the press to attend its meetings and holds as many of its meetings as possible in public. Provision is also made on the agendas for public questions to committees and details of how questions can be raised can be found on the website and/or on agendas for the meetings.

The closing date for receipt of public questions and deputations for the next meeting is 12 noon on the fifth working day before the meeting.

Agendas and minutes are published on the council's website [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk). Agendas are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date.

Meeting papers can be provided, on request, in large print, in Braille, on audio tape or on disc, or translated into any other language as requested.

For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact KarenAmsden/Julia Riches or email [Karen.amsden@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:Karen.amsden@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or [Julia.riches@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:Julia.riches@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

# Agenda Item 11

## To consider the following Procedural Business:

### A. Declaration of Substitutes

No substitutes are permitted on ad hoc scrutiny panels.

### B. Declarations of Interest

- (1) To seek declarations of any personal or personal & prejudicial interests under Part 2 of the Code of Conduct for Members in relation to matters on the Agenda. Members who do declare such interests are required to clearly describe the nature of the interest.
- (2) A Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission, an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or a Select Committee has a prejudicial interest in any business at a meeting of that Committee where –
  - (a) that business relates to a decision made (whether implemented or not) or action taken by the Executive or another of the Council's committees, sub-committees, joint committees or joint sub-committees; and
  - (b) at the time the decision was made or action was taken the Member was
    - (i) a Member of the Executive or that committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee and
    - (ii) was present when the decision was made or action taken.
- (3) If the interest is a prejudicial interest, the Code requires the Member concerned:
  - (a) to leave the room or chamber where the meeting takes place while the item in respect of which the declaration is made is under consideration. [There are three exceptions to this rule which are set out at paragraph (4) below].
  - (b) not to exercise executive functions in relation to that business and
  - (c) not to seek improperly to influence a decision about that business.
- (4) The circumstances in which a Member who has declared a prejudicial interest is permitted to remain while the item in respect of which the interest has been declared is under consideration are:
  - (a) for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the item, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise, BUT the

Member must leave immediately after he/she has made the representations, answered the questions, or given the evidence;

- (b) if the Member has obtained a dispensation from the Standards Committee; or
- (c) if the Member is the Leader or a Cabinet Member and has been required to attend before an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Sub-Committee to answer questions.

**C. Declaration of Party Whip**

To seek declarations of the existence and nature of any party whip in relation to any matter on the Agenda as set out at paragraph 8 of the Overview and Scrutiny Ways of Working.

**D. Exclusion of Press and Public**

To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

*NOTE: Any item appearing in Part 2 of the Agenda states in its heading the category under which the information disclosed in the report is confidential and therefore not available to the public.*

*A list and description of the exempt categories is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls.*

## Agenda Item 14

### Biographies of witnesses attending on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2009

#### Pooran Desai, OBE HonFRIBA, BioRegional



Pooran is Sustainability Director of BioRegional Quintain Ltd, which in joint venture with Crest Nicholson PLC is constructing the One Brighton development next to Brighton Station, widely being heralded as setting a new benchmark for cost-effective sustainable property development in the UK.

In 1994, Pooran co-founded the environmental organisation BioRegional Development Group. He has worked on projects in sustainable farming, forestry, recycling & eco-housing. Work on local woodland management led Pooran to establishing the BioRegional Charcoal Company, which supplies national retailers with local charcoal and firewood.

In 1998, he drew together the partnership to construct Beddington Zero (fossil) Energy Development (BedZED), currently UK's largest eco-village development. The project was developed with the Peabody Trust and won the 2002 International Energy Globe Award, 2003 Evening Standard Lifestyles Award and was shortlisted for the 2003 Stirling Prize.

Pooran chaired the Homes and Environment group of ACCPE (the UK Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee on Consumer Products and the Environment), has sat on the steering group of Buildings Research Establishment's EcoHomes group. He has been a consultant to central government, local authorities and developers. He is a director of the international 'One Planet Communities' initiative working on projects including a 6,000 home zero carbon development in Portugal, 6000 homes in South Africa and led BioRegional's team which wrote the sustainability plan for Masdar City, a new zero carbon zero waste city for 50,000 people under construction in Abu Dhabi.

Pooran has co-authored two books: 'BioRegional Solutions for Living on One Planet', a briefing for the Schumacher Society and 'One Planet Living<sup>®</sup>'. He has written a third book, 'One Planet Communities' which will be published in October 2009. In 2004, Pooran was awarded an OBE for services to sustainable development and in 2007 was made an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects. In 2009, with BioRegional's co-founder,

Sue Riddlestone, he was presented with a prestigious international Skoll Award for Social Enterprise.

### **David Porter, Environmental Enterprise Manager, EnviroBusiness**

David's role in EnviroBusiness is to work with small companies, universities, corporates and public sector support programmes to create and nurture new business opportunities. This involves using market knowledge of all parts of the Environmental Technologies and Services sector to identify growth areas, create business partnerships and provide access to investment and customers.

David has extensive experience in helping innovative environmental technology companies and in delivering public support programmes. Previously, as Director of managed the SETsquared Business Acceleration Programme, he has raised grant and commercial investment for new technologies & services and has helped forge collaborative corporate and university partnerships for innovation. David has undertaken market research in a wide range of areas and has provided strategic advice to both startups and corporates.

### **Jim Christy, Director, East Sussex Enterprise Hub**

Jim started his career with Manpower Services Commission shaping and developing new youth and adult training programmes. He subsequently moved into Economic Regeneration developing pioneering programmes with Sussex TEC which resulted in thousands of young people and adults achieving work based NVQ's across Sussex.

He commissioned early economic research across the West Sussex Coastal strip which triggered the formation of the most successful Business/public sector economic partnerships attracting millions of pounds investment into the Sussex economy.

With extensive experience of business planning, marketing and sales strategies Jim moved into the private sector as a director of a successful distribution company supplying the major utility companies across the UK.

Following the sale of the company and a period of direct consultancy, he became director of the Hastings Enterprise Hub in 2005 which successfully merged into the East Sussex Hub in 2007 raising nearly £5M of investment for SME businesses and generating £6.3M of GVA. The Hub currently has 67 Portfolio business clients and around 750 network clients. Sector groups have been developed for Environmental and Manufacturing companies in East Sussex.

As a hobby, Jim enjoys playing golf and is constantly looking for that new idea/innovation that will get him down to scratch!

**Dr. Jim Watson, Director of Sussex Energy Group, Sussex University.**

Dr Jim Watson is Director of the Sussex Energy Group at Sussex University in the UK and Joint Deputy Leader of the Tyndall Centre Climate Change and Energy Programme. Jim trained as an engineer at Imperial College London and has a PhD in science and technology policy from Sussex University. He manages and conducts research on energy and climate policy. His UK-based projects focus on energy innovation policy, distributed energy systems, carbon capture and storage, and the potential impacts of a new programme of nuclear power. He frequently works with UK government departments, and is a lead expert with the UK Foresight programme on its recent project: *Powering Our Lives*. He has been a Specialist Adviser with the House of Commons Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee since 2006. Internationally, he conducts research on low carbon technology transfer (including advice to the British, Chinese and Indian governments), and manages Tyndall Centre research on energy and climate scenarios for China. In summer 2008, he spent three months as a Visiting Scholar at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. Jim is a Council Member of the British Institute for Energy Economics and a Trustee of the Koru Foundation.

